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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9724

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 NEW DELHI 17170

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FOR EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION ONLY

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SUBJ: SAMARAN ROY'S IMPRESSIONS OF YOUTH CONGRESS AND
AICC SESSIONS

WE TRANSMIT BELOW, WITH ONLY MINOR EDITING, REPORT PRE-
PARED BY FSL SAMARAN ROY WHO ATTENDED THE YOUTH CONGRESS
AND AICC SESSIONS IN GAUHATI ON NOVEMBER 19-22, 1976.

BEGIN TEXT:

THE BROAD FEATURES OF THE YOUTH CONGRESS AND AICC SESS-
IONS ARE: (1) EMERGENCY OF SANJAY GANDHI AS THE SECOND
MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL LEADER OF THE CONGRESS. THE BIG
SHOW PUT UP FOR THE COMBINED NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE
AND AICC WAS DESIGNED FOR THAT PURPOSE. REPEATED SPEECHES
OF PRAISE TO SANJAY GANDHI BY ALMOST ALL THE SPEAKERS

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AND EVEN MINISTERS VIRTUALLY TRANSFORMED THE WHOLE
SESSION INTO A BUILD-UP FOR SANJAY GANDHI.

(2) IN HER MAJOR SPEECHES PRIME MINISTER GANDHI TRIED TO EXPLAIN THAT POVERTY IS NOT A MATERIAL BODY WHICH CAN JUST BE REMOVED FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, AND EMPHASIZED INSTEAD THE NEED TO INCREASE PRODUCTION AND THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF RELIANCE TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY.

(3) PRIME MINISTER REPEATEDLY ATTACKED CHIEF MINISTERS, OTHER MINISTERS AND CONGRESSMEN FOR BEING CONCERNED WITH BOLSTERING THEIR OWN PERSONAL POSITIONS AND INDICATED SHE MAY RESTRUCTURE THE PARTY AND THE GOVERNMENT AFTER THE GAUHATI SESSION, IF NECESSARY BY CONVENING A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS PARTY.

(4) PRIME MINISTER CRITICIZED DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WITHOUT NAMING ANY AND ASSERTED THAT INDIA DOES NOT LIKE TO BE DICTATED BY CREDIT-GIVING COUNTRIES. OTHER AICC SPEAKERS GENERALLY DID NOT MAKE SUCH STATEMENTS.

(5) THERE WAS VIRTUALLY NO DISSENTING VOICE. THE SESSION BORE AMPLE EVIDENCE OF THE PARTY'S CONTINUED OBEDIENCE TO PRIME MINISTER GANDHI, BUT IT ALSO CONFIRMED THAT SANJAY GANDHI HAS ACQUIRED THE STATUS OF A "NATIONAL LEADER". ALMOST EVERY SPEAKER, INCLUDING MINISTERS SPOKE NOT ONLY ABOUT THE 20-POINT PROGRAM OF PRIME MINISTER BUT ALSO IN THE SAME BREADTH ABOUT THE 5-POINT PROGRAM OF SANJAY GANDHI.

(6) PRIME MINISTER'S CRITICISM OF OTHER PARTIES FOR TRYING TO INTERFERE IN THE CONGRESS PARTY'S AFFAIRS WAS ACCEPTED AS A DIG AT THE CPI, AND INDICATED A MORE DIFFICULT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CONGRESS AND CPI IN THE FUTURE. THERE WAS CRITICISM ABOUT CPI MEDDLING IN THEIR AFFAIRS BY SOME YOUTH CONGRESS DELEGATES ALSO.

INTRODUCTION:

(1) AS ONE ENTERS GAUHATI ONE COMES ACROSS POSTERS ALL ALONG THE 25 MILE ROUTE FROM THE AIRPORT TO JAWAHARNAGAR, THE SIGHT FOR THE NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE AND AICC SESSION, BIG POSTERS WITH SANJAY GANDHI'S PICTURE ON IT. WELCOMING SANJAY GANDHI THE THREE LINES IN THE POSTER SIGNIFICANTLY SAY:

YOU ARE THE HELMSMAN OF OUR NEW INDIA;

ALL OUR HOPES LIE IN YOUR ABILITY;

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YOU ARE THE COUNTRY'S LAST RESORT.

IT WAS A VERITABLE SHOW DESIGNED TO MOVE SANJAY GANDHI UP ON THE NATIONAL SCENE. NOT ONLY DID PRIME MINISTER GANDHI DESCRIBE THE YOUTH CONGRESS' MEET WITH THE COMMENT "YOU HAVE STOLEN THE THUNDER", VIRTUALLY ALL THE MINISTERS AND AICC DELEGATES (BARRING ONLY PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI, MP OF WEST BENGAL) PRAISED SANJAY GANDHI FROM THE PLATFORM AS THE FUTURE LEADER. SOME OF THE REMARKS: PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER, GIANI ZAIL SINGH - "GREAT LEADER OF OUR COUNTRY"; HIMACHAL PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER

DR. PARMAR - "OUR FUTURE HOPE"; UNION MINISTER V.C. SHUKLA - "NATIONAL LEADER"; OTHERS WHO JOINED THE CHORUS ARE MADHYA PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER S.C. SHUKLA, GOI MINISTER GOKHLE TO NAME ONLY A FEW.

(2) DELEGATES: ATTENDED BY ABOUT 14,000 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 4.7 MILLION YOUTH CONGRESS MEMBERS IN THE COUNTRY AND 41 FRATERNAL DELEGATES REPRESENTING 27 COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE AND THE THIRD WORLD. THE YOUTH CONGRESS SESSION WAS THE BIGGEST DEMONSTRATION OF YOUTH FORCE EVER ORGANIZED IN THE COUNTRY. DESCRIBING THE SESSION AS THE MAIN SHOW AT GAUHATI, SANJAY GANDHI SAID IN HIS KEY-NOTE ADDRESS: AT CHANDIGARH A YEAR AGO THE YOUTH CONFERENCE WAS A SIDE SHOW ALONG WITH THE MAIN SHOW OF AICC. AT GAUHATI THE AICC IS A SIDE SHOW AND THE MAIN EVENT IS THE YOUTH CONFERENCE. SANJAY GANDHI ASSERTED THAT YOUTH CONGRESS WILL NO MORE BE A TAIL OF CONGRESS PARTY BUT WILL IN FUTURE SET THE PACE FOR ITS PARENT BODY.

(3) YOUTH CONGRESS CHALLENGE TO CONGRESS: FROM THE VERY BEGINNING BOTH AMBIKA SONI, PRESIDENT, YOUTH CONGRESS AND SANJAY GANDHI BEGAN TO BITTERLY CRITICISE CONGRESS PRESIDENT D.K. BAROOAH'S FAILURE TO BUILD-UP THE CONGRESS ORGANIZATION. MRS. SONI LOOKED AT CONGRESS PRESIDENT BAROOAH, WHO WAS SITTING ON THE DIAS AND SARCASTICALLY ASKED HIM: WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIS STATEMENT AT CHANDIGARH THAT 1976 WOULD BE AN ORGANIZATION YEAR. SHE AND SANJAY GANDHI BOTH CLAIMED THAT WHILE THE CONGRESS HAS FAILED IN ITS ORGANIZATIONAL TASK THE YOUTH CONGRESS HAS SET UP COMMITTEES AT BLOCK-LEVELS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. SANJAY GANDHI WENT FARTHER AND SAID BY THE END OF 1977 THE YOUTH CONGRESS WILL HAVE ELECTED COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AT VILLAGE PANCHAYAT LEVELS. HNRS.
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SONI TOLD BAROOAH THAT SOME CONGRESS BOSSES HAVE BEEN CREATING OBSTACLES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 5-POINT PROGRAM OF YOUTH CONGRESS, AND THAT DISTRICT CONGRESS COMMITTEES AND BLOCK-LEVELS CONGRESS COMMITTEES HAVE NOT BEEN COOPERATING WITH THE YOUTH CONGRESS.
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(4) SANJAY GANDHI'S VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL SITUATION:
SPEAKING ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SANJAY GANDHI EMPHASIZED THAT
INDIA WOULD LIKE TO HAVE FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL COUNTRIES.
THEN REFERRING TO REPEATED QUESTIONS POSED TO HIM HE
SAID: "PEOPLE ASKED ME WHICH COUNTRY ARE WE FOR. MY
ANSWER IS I AM FOR INDIA". HE ADDED, "THERE ARE SOME
COUNTRIES WHOSE IDEOLOGY AND SYSTEM HAVE SIMILARITY WITH
OURS, THERE ARE OTHERS WHO HAVE ALWAYS SUPPORTED US IN
THE UN AND OTHER WORLD FORUMS". (THIS PARTICULAR STATEMENT
HAS BEEN MISQUOTED IN MOST PAPERS ASCRIBING TO SANJAY AS
SAYING THAT ALTHOUGH INDIA WOULD LIKE TO HAVE FRIENDSHIP
WITH ALL COUNTRIES IT WILL CERTAINLY HAVE CLOSER TIES
WITH THOSE WHO SUPPORT US IN UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL
FORUMS. BUT THE EARLIER QUOTATION IS WHAT I HEARD AND
HAD NOTED DOWN IMMEDIATELY.) LATER SANJAY GANDHI PUT
EMPHASIS ON PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY AS THE ONE BEST
SUITED FOR OUR COUNTRY.

ADDRESSING THE YOUTH CONGRESS SESSION MRS. GANDHI
BITTERLY ATTACKED INDIANS ABROAD FOR THEIR CRITICISM OF
EMERGENCY IN INDIA. SHE ALSO CRITICIZED THE WESTERN
COUNTRIES, WITHOUT NAMING ANY IN THE SAME SPEECH. SHE SAID:
"THERE ARE MANY COUNTRIES; NO, NOT MANY COUNTRIES; A FEW
COUNTRIES, WHO HAVE CRITICIZED US. THEY THINK THEY ARE
THE WORLD".

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(5) PRIME MINISTER'S IMPRESSION OF YOUTH CONGRESS
SESSION: PRIME MINISTER GANDHI WAS SO IMPRESSED BY THE
MOBILIZATION OF YOUTH CONGRESS THAT SHE SAID IT WAS AS
BIG, IF NOT BIGGER THAN, AN AICC SESSION. BUT SHE ADDED
THE AICC SESSION WOULD ALSO BE IMPORTANT. THIS WAS IN
ANSWER TO MRS. SONI'S SPEECH REQUESTING PRIME MINISTER

TO ADDRESS THE GATHERING AND COMMENT ON THIS BIG ORGANIZATION. BUT PRIME MINISTER GANDHI DID CONDEDE THAT THE "YOUTH CONGRESS HAS STOLEN OUR THUNDER" AND SHE HAD NO DOUBT THAT THE "FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY IS SAFE IN THE HANDS OF THE YOUTH".

(6) AICC: MEETING ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 20, THE CONGRESS WORKING COMMITTEE IN HALF AN HOUR ADOPTED THE THREE RESOLUTIONS WHICH WERE PLACED BEFORE THE AICC, AND DECIDED THAT THREE CHIEF MINISTERS FROM NORTH EASTERN STATES WOULD MOVE THE RESOLUTIONS OFFICIALLY. THIS WAS A DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS PRACTICE IN THE AICC WHERE ONLY WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS MOVED THE RESOLUTIONS IN THE PAST. THIS WAS CRITICIZED BY MANY SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE AICC PRIVATELY ALTHOUGH IN THE SESSION ITSELF THERE WAS NO CRITICISM ABOUT THIS EXCEPT BY PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI, MP OF WEST BENGAL. IN HER CONCLUDING ADDRESS PRIME MINISTER REFERRED TO THIS AS MEANT TO DEVELOP GREATER INTEGRATION AND TO BRING THESE STATES IN NORTH EASTERN REGION INTO CLOSER RELATIONSHII AITH THE NATIONAL BODY AND WITH REST OF THE COUNTRY.

(7) ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS: IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING AICC GENERAL SECRETARY, MRS. PURABI MUKHERJEE DENIED YOUTH CONGRESS CHARGES THAT IT WAS NOT GETTING ENOUGH ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE CONGRESS. SHE SAID YOUTH CONGRESS HAS AMPLE REPRESENTATION IN THE MINISTRIES AND IN THE PARTY; THE YOUTH CONGRESS IS USING THE AICC PANDAL FOR ITS CONFERENCE AND THE YOUTH CONGRESS DELEGATES WERE BEING SERVED FOOD ALONG WITH THE AICC DELEGATES.

INAUGURATING THE AICC SESSION CONGRESS PRESIDENT BAROOAH SAID IN REPLY TO MRS. SONI'S CRITICISM, THAT 300,000 VOLUNTEERS HAD BEEN TRAINED IN 1976 AND SHORTLY VTHERE WILL BE 600,000 OF THEM. HE SAID IN ASSAM ALONE FORCE OF 27,000 VOLUNTEERS HAD BEEN FORMED, OF WHOM 9,000 WERE WOMEN.

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(8) PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH: PRIME MINISTER GANDHI ADMITTED THE RECENT PRICE-RISES AND SAID THAT A DELIBERATE POLICY OF PUBLIC CONTROL OVER PRICES AND INCOME WAS REQUIRED. IN THIS CONTEXT SHE CONGRATULATED THE WORKERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN INCREASING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION. BUT SHE SAID: "FRANKLY I HAVE NO ANSWER WHEN I AM ASKED WHAT THE MANAGEMENT AND PROPRIETORS HAVE DONE".

PRIME MINISTER DEVOTED A LOT OF TIME TO EXPLAINING CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT. REFERRING TO OPPOSITION CRITICISM THAT IF THE CONGRESS HAD MANDATE FOR CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT IN 1971 ELECTIONS WHY DIDN'T CONGRESS PARTY DO IT IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS, SHE SAID: "WE DID AMEND THE CONSTITUTION BREIFLY BUT BECAUSE OF CERAIN DEVELOP-

MENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE LATER WE HAD TO DO IT AGAIN."
SHE REFERRED TO CALAMITIES, AGGRESSIONS AND SERIOUS
ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES THE COUNTRY FACED AFTER 1972 AND
SAID WE COULD NOT AMEND THE CONSTITUTION THEN BECAUSE
OF OUR SERIOUS INVOLVEMENT WITH THE ECONOMIC SITUATION.
"WE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER WE COULD SURVIVE" SHE SAID.

THEN SHE ATTACKED THE OPPOSITION PARTIES AND OTHERS
WHO HAVE BEEN CRITICIZING AND ORGANIZING "DESTRUCTIVE
AND VIOLENT AGITATIONS". PARTICULARLY REFERRING TO THE
CRITICISM OF INDIANS ABROAD, SHE SAID AT THE TOP OF
HER VOICE: "FROM WHERE DO THEY GET THEIR MONEY? FROM
WHERE DO THEY GET THEIR SUPPORT?". THEN WITH TEARS ROLLING
DOWN HER EYES, IN A CHOKED VOICE SHE ASKED, HAVE THEY
PARTICIPATED IN THE COUNTRY'S FREEDOM STRUGGLE? SHE
REFERRED TO HER GENERATION AND SAID WE SHALL STAND FOR
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY FOR WHICH MANY MARTYRS
HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES.

REFERRING TO THE DETERIORATING ORGANIZATION OF THE
PARTY PRIME MINISTER REGRETTED THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN
POSSIBLE TO CHANGE THE CHARACTER OF THE CONGRESS ORGAN-
IZATION TO MAKE IT A SHARP INSTRUMENT TO BRING ABOUT THE
DESIRED SOCIO-POLITICAL CHANGES. SHE REGRETTED THAT
PARTY MEMBERS THOUGHT THAT IT WAS THE DUTY ONLY OF THE
GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE PARTY PROGRAM. IT WAS NOT
ENOUGH TO SAY THAT SO MANY CONGRESS WORKERS HAVE BEEN
TRAINED, REFERRING TO BAROOAH'S CLAIMS. THEY SHOULD BE
REQUIRED TO RENDER ACCOUNT OF WHAT THEY DONE AND WHAT RESULTS
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THEY HAVE OBTAINED. IN THIS CONNECTION, MRS. GHANDHI SAID
THAT A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS MAY HAVE TO BE
CONVENED TO ORGANIZE THE CONGRESS PARTY TO MEET THE
CHANGING NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

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SHE ALSO CRITICIZED THE CHIEF MINISTERS AND OTHER MINISTERS FOR BUILDING UP THEIR LITTLE EMPIRES WITHOUT CONCERNING THEMSELVES WITH THE NEEDS OF THE COMMON PEOPLE AND WITH LITTLE RESPECT TO THE ORGANIZATION AT THE LOCAL LEVELS. IN HER CONCLUDING ADDRESS, SHE TOLD CHIEF MINISTERS FRANKLY THAT UNLESS THEY COULD BUILD-UP A CORDIAL AND RESPONSIVE RELATION WITH THE ORGANIZATION THEY HAVE TO GO. THIS WAS LOUDLY CHEERED BY DELEGATES FROM WEST BENGAL AND ORISSA WHO HAVE BEEN URGING CHANGES OF THEIR CHIEF MINISTERS.

COMMENT: IT WAS AN EXPERIENCE TO WATCH THE YOUTH CONGRESS CONFERENCE AND AICC AT GAUHATI--TO SEE THE GREAT CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE CONGRESS AND IN THE MOOD AND ATTITUDE OF THE CONGRESSMEN COMPARED TO THE LAST ONE THIS REPORTING ASSISTANT ATTENDED IN CALCUTTA IN DECEMBER 1972. AT THAT PLENARY SESSION IN CALCUTTA MRS. GANDHI WAS AT THE HEIGHT OF HER POPULARITY WITH CONGRESSMEN LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY. AT GAUHATI SHE WAS AT THE HEIGHT OF HER AUTHORITY WITH DESPONDENT CONGRESSMEN UNCERTAIN ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURE OR THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY. AT CALCUTTA IN 1972 THE YOUTH POWER WAS REAL AND HAD GROWN THROUGH A BITTER STRUGGLE DURING THE BAD DAYS OF THE PARTY AND THE ELDERS IN THE
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PARTY HAD GENUINE RESPECT FOR THEM. AT GAUHATI THE YOUTH POWER WAS WILD, MORE POWERFUL WITHIN THE PARTY UNDER SANJAY GANDHI'S LEADERSHIP BUT DERIVING STRENGTH MAINLY FROM AUTHORITY IN THE TOP, NOT THROUGH STRUGGLE, THE ELDERS IN THE PARTY VISIBLY FEAR THIS NEW YOUTH POWER.

IT WAS APPARENT THAT THE YOUTH CONGRESS UNDER SANJAY GANDHI'S LEADERSHIP WOULD GROW MORE POWERFUL. SANJAY GANDHI'S SUGGESTION TO HAVE MANY MORE PAID PEOPLE IN THE CONGRESS SEVA DAL WOULD NOT ONLY MAKE SEVA DAL A STRONG ALLY OF THE YOUTH CONGRESS BUT ALSO THE TWO COMBINED WILL BE STRONG ENOUGH TO DOMINATE THE ORGANIZATION. THERE

HAVE BEEN CRITICISMS IN PRIVATE ABOUT THIS NEW FORCE WITHIN THE PARTY AND MANY ELDERS ACCEPT THIS WITH RESIGNATION AS THE FUTURE PATTERN OF THE CONGRESS PARTY'S ORGANIZATION AND IN THE POLITICS OF THE COUNTRY.

IT WAS REMARKED BY SENIOR CONGRESSMEN PRIVATELY THAT THE CONGRESS PARTY ORGANIZATION UNDER MRS. GANDHI'S LEADERSHIP HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY REDUCED TO AN IMPOTENT BODY SO THAT THIS NEW YOUTH FORCE COULD VIRTUALLY TAKE IT OVER. THERE HAVE BEEN NO ORGANIZATIONAL ELECTIONS OR MEMBERSHIP DRIVES IN THE CONGRESS PARTY SINCE THE BIG SPLIT IN 1969. IN ADDITION, AFTER THE CHANDIGARH PLENARY SESSION THE CONGRESS HAS SO FAR DELIBERATELY NOT FORMED ANY OF ITS IMPORTANT COMMITTEES LIKE THE CONGRESS PARLIAMENTARY BOARD OR THE DISCIPLINARY ACTION COMMITTEE. THIS WAS GIVEN AS ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE THAT (1) NOT ONLY THAT THE ELECTIONS WILL NOT TAKE PLACE EVEN IN 1978 BUT ALSO (2) THAT EMERGENCY WAS NOT GOING TO BE RELAXED OR WITHDRAWN.

IT WAS ESTIMATED BY LOCAL PEOPLE THAT ABOUT 25 MILLION RUPEES WERE SPENT FOR PREPARATION OF THIS SESSION. GAUHATI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION RECEIVED 5.8 MILLION RS. FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ROAD, TRAFFIC AND WATER SYSTEM IN THE TOWN. ABOUT 12.5 MILLION RS. WAS REPORTEDLY SPENT BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ROADS AND WATER SYSTEM OUTSIDE OF THE MUNICIPAL LIMITS. SOME 2.5 TO 3 MILLION RS. WAS SPENT FOR FLATTENING OF HILL TOPS AND CONSTRUCTION OF TWO BUNGALOWS--ONE FOR THE RESIDENCE OF PRIME MINISTER AND HER FAMILY, AND ANOTHER FOR THE USE OF CONGRESS PRESIDENT BAROOAH. A FLEET OF AT LEAST 500 CARS WAS MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE USE OF THE
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AICC AND ABOUT 108 TRUCKS, SOME FITTED WITH SITTING ARRANGEMENTS WERE COMMANDEERED FOR THE TWO PROCESSIONS AND FOR USE OF YOUTH CONGRESS DELEGATES.

IT WAS INDEED VERY DIFFICULT FOR THIS REPORTING ASSISTANT TO COVER THE NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE AND AICC SESSION IN GAUHATI. THERE WAS VIRTUALLY NO ACCOMMODATION OR TRANSPORT, WHICH THIS REPORTING ASSISTANT HAD TO MANAGE WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY. THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE OFFICE WAS MOST UNCOOPERATIVE AND THIS REPORTING ASSISTANT WAS DENIED ACCESS EVEN TO THE SNACK BAR ON THE REAR SIDE OF THE PANDAL. AND LASTLY, I WAS TOLD BY FRIENDS AND JOURNALISTS THAT I WAS BEING CONSTANTLY SHADOWED BY SECURITY POLICE. I BELIEVE THIS WAS DONE PRIMARILY WITH THE OBJECT OF RESTRICTING MY MOVEMENTS AND CONTACT WITH JOURNALISTS AND AICC DELEGATES. END TEXT.
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